

## SKETCHES OF LINCOLN.

### The Reconciliation and the Quiet Marriage.

#### AFTER A LONG HIATUS OF REST.

Two things Lincoln always seemed willing to forget—The Affair With the Hot Headed Shields—A Grotesque Drama and How It Finally Ended.

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#### XIV.

Lincoln re-entered the law practice, after the long hiatus of rest, with renewed vigor. He permitted the memory of his engagement with Mary Todd to trouble him no longer. Their paths had diverged, the pain of the separation was over, and the whole thing was a history of the past. And so it might ever have remained but for the intervention of a very shrewd and sagacious lady—one who was capable of achieving success anywhere in the ranks of diplomacy. This lady was the wife of Simeon Francis, the editor of the Sangamon Journal. She was a warm friend of Mary Todd and a leader in society. Her husband was warmly attached to Lincoln. He ran the Whig organ and entertained



JAMES SHIELDS.

great admiration for Lincoln's brains and noble qualities. The esteem was mutual, and it is no stretch of the truth to say that for years Lincoln exercised undisputed control of the columns of The Journal himself. Whatever he wrote or had written went into the editorial page without question.

Mrs. Francis, sharing her husband's views of Lincoln's glorious possibilities and desiring to do Mary Todd a kindly act, determined to bring about a reconciliation. She knew that Miss Todd had by letter a few days after "that fatal 1st of January, 1841," as Lincoln styled it, released him from the engagement, and that since then their relations had been strained, if not entirely broken off. As she viewed it, a marriage between a man as promising in the political world as Lincoln and a woman as accomplished and brilliant in society as Mary Todd would certainly add to the attractions of Springfield and reflect great credit on those who brought the union about. She was a great social entertainer, and one day arranged a gathering at her house for the express purpose of bringing these two people together. Both were invited and both attended, but neither suspected the other's presence. Having arranged things so ingeniously and with so much discretion, it was no difficult task for the hostess to bring the couple together by a warm introduction and the encouraging admonition, "Be friends again." Much to the surprise of both, they found the web woven around them. They entered into the spirit of the reconciliation and found Mrs. Francis' roof an inviting place for many succeeding meetings. A wall reared itself between them and the past, and they started again under the auspicious omens of another engagement. The tact of a woman and the diplomacy of society had accomplished what love had long since despaired of ever doing or seeing done.

The meetings in the parlor of Mrs. Francis' house were conducted with no little privacy. At first even Mrs. Edwards knew nothing of it, but presently it came to her ears. "I asked Mary," said this lady, "why she was so secretive about it. She said evasively that after all that had occurred it was best to keep the courtship from all eyes and ears. Men and women and the whole world were uncertain and slippery, and if misfortune befell the engagement all knowledge of it would be hidden from the world."

#### Married to Miss Todd.

It is unnecessary to prolong the account of this strange and checkered courtship. The intervention of the affair with Shields in no way impeded if it did not hasten the marriage. One morning in November Lincoln, hastening to the room of his friend James H. Mathey before the latter had arisen from bed, informed him that he was to be married that night, and requested him to attend as best man. That same morning Miss Todd called on her friend Julia M. Jayne, who afterward married Lyman Trumbull, and made a similar request. The Edwardses were notified and made such meager preparations as were possible on so short notice. License was obtained during the day, the minister, Charles N. Dresser, was sent for, and in the evening of Nov. 4, 1842, "as pale and trembling as if being driven to slaughter," Abraham Lincoln was at last married to Mary Todd.

One great trial of his life was now over, and another still greater one was yet to come. To me it has always seemed plain that Mr. Lincoln married Mary Todd to save his honor, and in doing that he sacrificed his domestic peace. He had searched himself subjectively, in-

spectively, thoroughly. He knew he did not love her, but he had promised to marry her! The hideous thought came up like a nightmare. As the "fatal 1st of January, 1841," neared, the clouds around him blackened the heavens and his life almost went out with the storm. But soon the skies cleared. Friends interposed their aid to avert a calamity, and at last he stood face to face with the great conflict between honor and domestic peace. He chose the former, and with it years of self torture, sacrificial pangs and the loss forever of a happy home.

#### Willing to Forget.

There were two things Mr. Lincoln always seemed willing to forget. One was his unparliamentary escape with Joseph Gillespie from the legislature by jumping through the church window, in 1839, and the other was the difficulty with James Shields, or, as he expressed it in a letter to Speed, "the duel with Shields." Other incidents in his career he frequently called up in conversation with friends, but in after years he seldom if ever referred to the affair with Shields. People in Illinois did gradually forget or at least cease mention of it, but in more remote quarters where Mr. Lincoln was less extensively known the thing, much to his regret, kept rising to the surface. During a visit which I made to the eastern states in 1858 I was often asked for an account of the so called duel, so often, in fact, that on my return home I told Mr. Lincoln of it. "If all the good things I have ever done," he said regretfully, "are remembered as long and well as my scrape with Shields, it is plain I shall not soon be forgotten."

James Shields, a "gallant, hot headed" bachelor from Tyrone county, Ireland, and a man of inordinate vanity, had been elected auditor of state. Encouraged somewhat by the prominence the office gave him, he at once assumed a conspicuous position in the society of Springfield. He was extremely sensitive by nature, but exposed himself to merciless ridicule by attempting to establish his supremacy as a beau among the ladies. Blind to his own defects and very pronounced in support of every act of the Democratic party, he made himself the target for all the bitterness and ridicule of the day. It happened that the financial resources of the state, owing to the collapse of the great internal improvement system, were exceedingly limited, and people were growing restless under what they deemed excessive taxation. The state officers were all Democrats, and during the summer they issued an order declining to receive any more state bank notes or bills in payment of taxes. This made the taxpayer's burdens greater than ever, as much of this paper remained outstanding in the hands of the people. The order met with opposition from every quarter, the Whigs of course losing no opportunity to make it as odious as possible.

It was perfectly natural, therefore, that such an ardent Whig as Lincoln should join in the popular denunciation. Through the columns of the Springfield Journal, of which he had the undisputed use, he determined to encourage the opposition by the use of his pen. No object seemed to merit more ridicule and caricature than the conspicuous figure of the auditor of state. At this time Lincoln was enjoying stolen conferences under the hospitable roof of Mrs. Francis with Mary Todd and her friend, Julia M. Jayne. These two young ladies, to whom he confided his purpose, encouraged it and offered to lend their aid. Here he caught the idea of puncturing Shields. The thing took shape in an article published in The Journal, purporting to have come from a poor widow, who with her pockets full of state bank paper was still unable to obtain the coveted receipt for her taxes. It was written by Lincoln and was headed, "A Letter From the Lost Townships."

#### The "Dueling Business."

It ridiculed Shields' social pretensions without mercy. He threatened vengeance, and soon another letter appeared in which the "widow" offered to deprecate his wrath by marrying him. To this one of the ladies soon added a poem rejoicing over the proposed marriage. Through General John D. Whiteside Shields demanded of Editor Francis the name of the author. The latter hunted up Lincoln, who directed him to give his name and say nothing about the ladies.

There was a vast amount of correspondence, a challenge, and a meeting on the west bank of the Mississippi followed, but at the last minute friends effected a reconciliation. Then the seconds quarreled, all the correspondence was published, and both principals were laughed at, as they richly deserved.

The following letter from Lincoln to his friend Speed furnishes the final outcome of the "dueling business."

SPEEDFIELD, Oct. 5, 1842.  
DEAR SPEED—You have heard of my duel with Shields, and I have now to inform you that the dueling business still rages in this city. Day before yesterday Shields challenged Butler, who accepted, proposed fighting next morning at sunrise in Bob Allen's meadow, 100 yards distance, with rifles. To this Whiteside, Shields' second, said "No" because of the law. Thus ended duel No. 2. Yesterday Whiteside chose to consider himself insulted by Dr. Merryman, so sent him a kind of quiet challenge inviting him to meet him at the Planter's House in St. Louis on the next Friday to settle their difficulty. Merryman made me his friend and sent Whiteside a note inquiring to know if he meant his note as a challenge, and if so that he would, according to law in such case made and provided, prescribe the terms of meeting. Whiteside returned for answer that if Merryman would meet him at the Planter's House as desired he would challenge him. Merryman replied in a note that he denied Whiteside's right to dictate time and place, but that he (Merryman) would waive the question of time and meet him at Louisiana, Mo. Upon my presenting this note to Whiteside and stating verbally its contents he declined receiving it, saying he had business in St. Louis, and it was as near as Louisiana. Merryman then directed me to notify Whiteside that he should publish the correspondence between them, with such comments as he saw fit. This I did. Thus it stood at bedtime last night. This morning Whiteside, by his friend Shields, is praying for a new trial, on the ground that he was mistaken in Merryman's proposition to meet him at Louisiana, Mo., thinking it was the state of Louisiana. This Merryman hoots at and is preparing his publication, while the town is in a ferment and a street fight what anticipated. Yours forever, LINCOLN.

## FALSIFIES FIGURES.

### AN ENGLISH JOHNNY-KNOW-ALL TAKES A TUMBLE.

A New York Paper's Specialty in Juggling With Figures—A Lazy Literary Baron Munchausen Full of Quips and Quibbles. Craftwork That Tops Mount Mendacity.

The editor of The Post is never so unfortunate as when he writes upon the tariff question. Mr. Godkin's recent silence in this direction had almost led to believe that he was beginning to comprehend the vastness of his ignorance upon this subject. As a juggler and falsifier of figures Mr. Godkin's ability is so well known that it hardly needs



fresh confirmation, but it is well to point out that his most recent effort to uphold the existing "tariff reform" measure was entirely devoid of the slightest semblance of fact or veracity. This Baron Munchausen of the "tariff reform" party says:

"That under the McKinley tariff the importations of woolen goods were greater than under the present tariff. If a schedule of exportations of woolens were made up for the corresponding periods, they would probably show a contrary result—that is, larger exportations now than then."

Mr. Godkin was too lazy to add together each month's figures of our imports and exports, but he published an imaginary half year's imports simply by cutting in half the returns of our imports for the year ending June 30, 1892, comparing them with our imports of woolens during the six months ending Feb. 28, 1895, which latter were given at \$17,383,292. Mr. Godkin conveniently forgets to tell his readers that his tariff reform rates on woolen manufactures did not take effect till Jan. 1, 1895, and that during three months only, ending March 31, 1895, our imports of all woolen goods reached \$15,260,500, as follows:

FOR THREE MONTHS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 1895.	
Carpets and carpeting.....	\$473,537
Clothing (ready made).....	315,852
Cloths.....	7,400,046
Dress goods (women's and children's).....	6,704,128
Knit fabrics.....	305,855
Shawls.....	69,927
Yarns.....	535,978
All other.....	496,007
Total.....	\$15,260,500

Godkin figures, six months to Feb. 28, 1895.....\$17,383,292

The foregoing statistics that we give in detail are taken from the monthly reports of the bureau of statistics of the treasury department, the totals for each month—January, February and March—being added together. Godkin was too lazy to do this, but forced a balance for half of a year that is not yet ended. Whether among his other talents he deems himself to have been gifted by the Almighty with a foreknowledge of our trade in foreign woolen goods, or whether he has received advance information from his English friends as to the extent of their exports during the coming months, we are unable to say, but people will be inclined rather to rely upon the statistics of the treasury department than upon any divvy of an imaginary "year's importations by two" that Editor Godkin is pleased to juggle.

As the present tariff on woolen manufactured goods took effect only on Jan. 1 last, therefore a proper comparison of its workings with the McKinley tariff can only be instituted by showing the value of our imports of foreign woolen goods during the earlier months of the McKinley tariff immediately subsequent to its passage, taking the same number of months directly after the passage of the Gorman tariff.

These imports we give from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 1890, immediately after the enactment of the McKinley tariff, add-



ing thereto a line showing the value of the imports during the first three months of the Gorman tariff, and also appending the Godkin divvy computed from our imports of a year that has not yet ended, divided by two:

FOR THREE MONTHS, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1890.	
Carpets and carpeting.....	\$300,032
Clothing (ready made).....	266,550
Cloths.....	2,245,746
Dress goods.....	3,708,702
Knit fabrics.....	127,743
Shawls.....	127,878
Yarns.....	129,861
All others.....	1,023,703
Total.....	\$5,122,955

## McKINLEY'S CAPTURE.

Elk Perkins Tells How the Chicory Industry Was Established.

"I believe," said McKinley, "that, with protection in America, we can capture the business of raising and manufacturing all our linen, just as we have captured the nail, tin, chicory, silk and carpet industries, and make all of these things in the end cheaper for our people. I would agree to have the Belfast linen manufacturers in this country in two years and Minnesota covered with flax in place of cheap wheat if I could dictate the policy. I think that \$25,000,000 a year saved to the United States on linen is worth trying for, and proper protection would do it."

Mr. Dana tells me that he raises chicory in his famous garden at Flushing and uses the green tops for salad.

Now comes the news from Nebraska that the state is so delighted with the protective policy which brought a great industry into their state that the legislature has added a bounty on both chicory and sugar.

The \$1,000,000 beet sugar plant at Norfolk has been found large enough to manufacture their great North Platte beet crop into sugar, and they are turning the great Gad Island sugar house into a chicory factory. Millions of bushels of corn and wheat will go out of Nebraska, and by and by, thanks to protection, the farmer will get a better price for wheat. How much wiser is such a policy than the policy of killing an industry! With the tariff on wool, sheep were going all over Dakota and Minnesota taking out wheat and enriching the worn-out land. Now sheep are being killed, the industry destroyed, and \$25,000,000 annually will go to Asia for wool.

Let us be glad that the new industry of chicory has escaped Mr. Wilson's poisoned arrow.—Elk Perkins.

## BUSINESS AND POLITICS.

More Business Men Should Represent the People in Congress.

The business man is a necessity in politics, but not merely on account of the money contribution that he is asked to make toward the campaign fund. The business man should seek politics, and not wait for the campaign collector to seek him. The business man should be in attendance at the primaries, where the groundwork of subsequent contests is arranged. It is the duty of the business man to help in securing sound politics, with good representatives for his party at every stage of the game. The business man's interests in politics are vastly superior to and of a higher character than the interests of the wire puller or of the boss.

The business man more often than not neglects his duty in this respect. While congressional action alone may have any direct bearing upon his individual affairs the business man should remember that our representatives in congress are nominated through an earlier procedure in the campaign. No business man can afford to have his interests left in the hands of a professional politician—the mere tool of a boss. Every business man needs to be represented by a fellow citizen in whom he has confidence. It is the duty of business men to see that they are so represented. Business men should not shirk their duty. By taking lively interest in their early local politics they will be able to send more business men to congress. This is what we need.

## Profit and Loss.

WORKING GIRLS' WAGES.	1892	1895
WAGES.....	\$9.99	\$3.99
BOARD.....	3.99	1.99
PROFIT.....	6.00	1.99
LOSS.....		1.99

## Cannot Build a Home.

Democratic papers are taking much pains to tell the laboring man how much cheaper everything is nowadays and what bargains he can have if he will only pitch in and buy. And all this owing to the Wilson tariff bill. The thoughts of the workmen when they read such stuff can best be inferred from the reply which one of them made to a man advancing a similar argument. Said this latter to the laborer: "Jack, you have saved up some money. Why don't you go to work and put up a home of your own? Why, man, you never could build as cheap as you can now, ever since the Wilson bill is in effect." Answered the laboring man: "Yes, d—n the Wilson bill. I have been out of a job ever since it was passed, and my savings are gone."—Burlington Hawk Eye.

## What Our Free Wool Does.

The Kidderminster carpet trade "is improving at last," according to The Textile Mercury. Most of the Kidderminster firms are fully employed, having orders to keep them going for some time. This is a condition that has taken place since we have had free wool. As we have several times pointed out, our imports of English made carpets have been steadily increasing since the woolen schedule of the Gorman tariff went into effect.

## Living Statue Suitable.

There has been no increase in our imports of bronze manufactures under the new tariff. Evidently the American living statue is suitable for all requirements.

## TOWN IMPROVEMENT.

### WHAT COMBINATION AND ZEAL CAN ACCOMPLISH.

Some Western Villages That Illustrate the Value of Town Pride and Civic Patriotism—How to Raise Funds—Bishop Whipple's Influence in Faribault.

When citizens combine to raise the standard of their town, the work is half accomplished. Once results are seen the whole community is anxious to continue the good work. Mr. B. G. Northrop in Forum mentions several western towns that have profited by organized as well as individual effort in this direction.

The following sketches, limited to personal observations, relate chiefly to the west, where so many good examples are found that selection is difficult. It is in the western states that the greatest progress in rural improvement has been made during the last ten years. Here one finds illustrations of co-operation and enterprise surpassing the more staid east. The Wyoming Village Improvement society is the foremost organization of its kind in Ohio. It was formed in 1880 at a public meeting where several spirited addresses were made. The mayor of the village was made president, and a directory of four women and four men was appointed. These were divided into committees on trees, sidewalks, on sewerage, on finance and on entertainments, concerts and lectures.

Though the population of the village was only 700, they began work with thoroughness and enthusiasm. Nearly every man and woman in the village joined the association. They first undertook one conspicuous improvement—the enlargement and adornment of the unsightly grounds of the railroad station. They collected \$1,200 by subscription; the railroad company added \$400 and hauled the needed gravel and soil without charge. The result is the most attractive station park on this line of railway.

In 1881 there were planted in this park 185 trees and 63 shrubs of flowering varieties and flower beds, all arranged by a competent landscape gardener. In 1882 770 trees were planted along the streets. The aggregate number of trees planted by this association is about 4,000. During its first three years the society raised through membership dues, private subscriptions, entertainments and the like nearly \$3,000. The membership fee was \$3 for the first year, and annually thereafter \$2, for persons not of age \$1 or the planting of one tree under the direction of the tree committee. The society has secured an efficient street sprinkling service. The property holders have laid miles of artificial stone sidewalks, and public spirited citizens have given to the village a commodious and elegant hall, in which are a fine library and reading room.

The Village Improvement society has been the leader in these and many other improvements. It has shown the value of town pride and civic patriotism. The plans and recommendations of this society for street lights, water supply and sewerage have won general favor. Wyoming demonstrates the wisdom of excluding national politics from local elections, and the same mayor has been re-elected for eight years.

Village improvement is often carried on by individual as well as by organized efforts when a citizen of wealth and liberality or of wise foresight starts forces that lift up a whole community. Faribault, the model town of Minnesota, is a suggestive instance of the value of a wise and patriotic leader. Bishop Whipple's residence and influence here for more than 30 years explain the growth and attractions of this prosperous town.

Faribault is celebrated for its educational institutions. The Shattuck school, with a campus of 150 acres; St. Mary's school, and the Seabury Divinity school have long shared his supervision. The three state schools for the deaf, the blind and for imbeciles, tell of his influence. These six great institutions are beautifully situated on a bluff, embracing several hundred acres and overlooking the city and surrounding country. The grounds and this group of elegant buildings are so arranged as to make one unique and continuous park nearly two miles in length. They are all open to the public, with their fine groves, lawns, statuary, winding drives and charming walks. Nature and art have here combined in presenting most attractive features unlike anything I have elsewhere seen. Bishop Whipple is justly held in honor throughout the country for his other services, but by the citizens of Faribault he is revered also as their benefactor, though he is without fortune.

Northfield, Minn., is another illustration. When 30 years ago it was decided to found a college in this state, it was established at Northfield because of a generous offer of land and money, which has proved to be a good investment. The college has helped the town in many ways. Professor Margaret Evans was the first president of the Town Improvement society, which did an important work in giving a decisive and permanent direction to public taste and in making neatness and attractiveness essential to the premises of every self respecting citizen. The front fences have disappeared, the work of the lawn mower is seen on every side, and such lawns as grow on this Minnesota loam, so dense and velvety, we seldom see the like of in the eastern states. The improvements in private residences, in sanitary conditions, in the grading of the streets, in the waterworks, and in many other respects, are ascribed to the influence of the improvement association.

## In the Interest of Health.

The Woman's Health Protective association in New York is making an effort to stop the practice indulged in by retail butchers of hanging meats and poultry in front of their shops, where it is exposed to the dust of the street, the heat of the sun and the attack of flies and dangerous infection. This is a proper and a prudent move.

## SO MUCH WORK

For a Healthy Existence.—That's Why the Kidneys so often Fail.

Nature has provided a certain amount of work for every organ of the human body; overtax them and disease eventually follows. There is not one portion of our organism that is so overworked as the kidneys; on them is placed the important function of filtering the blood of the impurities which naturally form in the regular action of life and digestion. The kidneys are consequently termed the sewerage of the system; clog up this sewer, and the blood becomes tainted with poisonous uric acid, which brings on disease in many forms. The back is the first to show this stoppage. From there comes the warning note; it should be heeded, and the kidneys receive prompt attention. Doan's Kidney Pills will right the action of the kidneys quickly, relieve the back of pains and aches, and cure all troubles of kidneys and bladder. Read the following:

Mr. Wm. Nelson is a well-known business man of Kalamazoo, he resides at 822 Portage Street, and his business is that of a grain buyer. He says:

"For five years I have suffered from an inability to urinate, which resulted from what was said to be a stoppage of the bladder. During these years I have taken mineral and electric baths and used other means in expectancy of getting better, but they all proved unavailing. Some months ago I began using Doan's Kidney Pills, which I had heard highly recommended, and I can now say that the flattering reports were not greater than they deserved. I got better right along, and I am free from any trouble now. I feel better than I have done for three years past. If Doan's Kidney Pills were well known all over they would do an immense amount of good."

Sold by all dealers—price, 50 cents. Mailed by Foster-McIlbourn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the U. S. Remember the name, Doan's, and take no other.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN—  
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Send me FOUR CENTS in stamps and let me send you something valuable on the subject.  
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NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.

## Do You Want to Stop Tobacco?

You Can Be Cured While Using It.

The habit of using tobacco grows on a man until grave diseases are produced. Tobacco causes cancer of the mouth and stomach, dyspepsia, loss of memory, nervous afflictions, congestion of the retina, and wasting of the optic nerve, resulting in impairment of the vision, even to the extent of blindness; dizziness, or vertigo; tobacco asthma; nightly suffocation; dull pain in the region of the heart, followed later by sharp pains, palpitation and weakened pulse, resulting in fatal heart disease. It also causes loss of vitality.

Quit, before it is too late. Quit suddenly is too severe a shock to the system, as tobacco, to an inveterate user, becomes a stimulant that his system continually craves.

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"Bacco-Cure" is not a substitute, but a reliable and scientific cure, which absolutely destroys the craving for tobacco without the aid of will power, and with no inconvenience. It leaves the system as pure and free from nicotine as the day you took your first chew or smoke.

Sold by all druggists, at \$1.00 per box, three boxes (thirty days treatment), and guaranteed cure, \$2.50, or sent direct upon receipt of price. Send six two-cent stamps for sample box, booklet and proofs free. Eureka Chemical & Manufacturing Company, Manufacturing Chemists, La Crosse, Wis. [2007]

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